The Nisgha phonological inventory is typical of the Northwest coast, with plain stops *p, t, c, k, k*^{w}, *q*, ejectives *p̓, t̓, c̓, ƛ̓, k̓, k̓*^{w}, *q̓*, fricatives *s, ɬ, x, x*^{w}, *χ*, plain resonants *m, n, l, y, w, h*, and glottalized resonants *m̓, n̓, l̓, y̓, w̓*, and *ʔ*. (The *t* series is dental, and *c* is a somewhat palatalized affricate. The velars are in most contexts palatal.) Syllable structure may be complex: *t̓ḵú·c̓ilksk*^{w} 'heavy windstorm', *ʔanχsksí·sk*^{w} 'compensation for a crime'. Vowels contrast in length: *i, e, a, o, u; i·, e·, a·, o·, u·*. Stress is not fully predictable, though it usually falls on the root.

Mithun, Marianne. 1999. The Languages of Native North America. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.